

# CAPE FEAR STEAMER

Winter 1993

Museum of the Cape Fear Newsletter

Vol. IV, No. 2

## What's Inside

Curator's Column p. 2

Quarterly Craft p. 2

"What's in the Attic" p. 2

New Exhibit: The CCC p. 3

Chautauqua p. 3

Program Follow-Ups p. 4

Volunteer News p. 5

Calendar of Events p. 6



## "Ghost" Tower Unveiled

Looking out over the CBD Loop stands a thirty-five foot, cream-painted, metal framework. The "ghost" tower is complete. The structure represents the original northwest tower of the United States Arsenal in North Carolina and will be the catalyst for development of Arsenal Park and the Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex.

The "ghost" tower construction was made possible by gifts from the North Carolina Museum of History Associates, the Florence Rogers Charitable Trust, the Fayetteville Publishing Company, members of the museum's regional advisory board and the com-



munity. A private dedication and donor reception were hosted by the Museum of History Associates with over 170 people attending.

The "ghost" tower was presented to the public through an arsenal encampment. Over 700 people attended the living history interpretation of military life during the arsenal's existence from 1838 to 1865.

The museum wishes to thank all who have given their support and energy to the tower project. It represents a step in developing a major historical complex which will be an asset to this region.

## Curator's Column

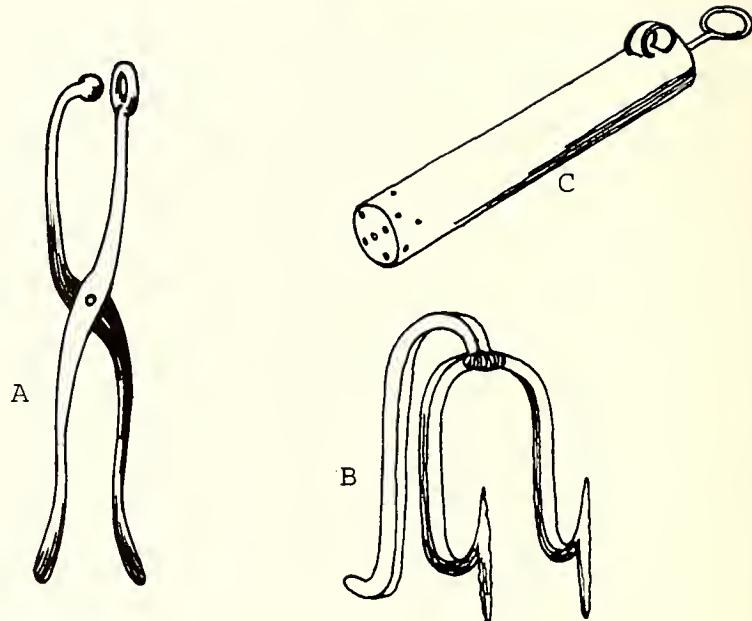
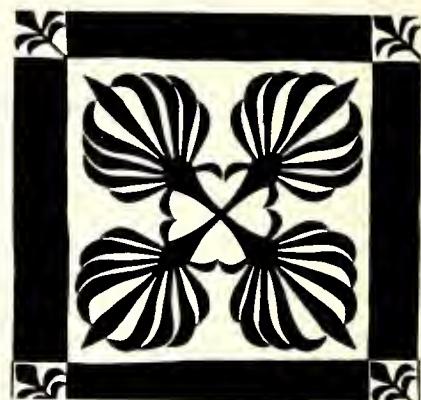
Referring to 1992 in the past tense. Wow! Where did the time go? Perhaps it passed quickly, but not without accomplishment at the Museum of the Cape Fear.

Tremendous achievements on several fronts were realized in 1992. The African-American Chautauqua broke new ground in interpretive programming; the fact that the chautauqua will be presented again in 1993 is a tribute to its success and educational worth. A permanent exhibit examining the textile industry from 1865 to 1900 was installed. The crowning achievement was the creation of a new long-range plan, completing the planning, obtaining approval to conduct a capital campaign, securing private capital and subsequently constructing the "ghost" tower. This is only a sampling of the accomplishments in '92.

Many persons deserve credit for the above accomplishments. A huge debt of gratitude is owed the staff, volunteers, board and many supporters of the Museum of the Cape Fear. Please accept my personal thanks for your commitment and caring, and my best wishes for a Happy New Year.

## Quarterly Craft

On January 24 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm, the museum will continue its quarterly crafts series with a quilting demonstration. The Tar Heel Quilters Guild will illustrate and explain quilting techniques. The quarterly craft series is funded by the North Carolina Museum of History Associates.



## What's in the Case?

Part of the museum's most recent special exhibit, *What's in the Attic*, included a case with three unidentified artifacts. Visitors were encouraged to submit their ideas on these objects. Speculations on artifact A included a shoe press, boot tool and tongs for both hot and cold items. The object is actually a device for stretching a boot to accommodate bunions. Many visitors thought artifact B was an andiron, a device for moving small logs, an iron

holder, a boot jack/shoe scraper or a display stand for books and plates. The museum has yet to identify the item but is currently following some leads. Visitors conjectured that artifact C was a garden duster, a caulking tube, a spaghetti maker, cookie gun or cake decorating utensil. Those suspecting a culinary use for the tool were correct. It is a syllabub churn; a device for making a kind of eggnog which is thickened to make a topping or dessert.

## Brother, Can You Spare Some Time?

America was down. Drastic measures were needed to revive her. The new President, Franklin D. Roosevelt, pledged to create a sweeping program of recovery, relief and reform. One of the administration's most popular programs was the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), a nationwide effort using single men ages 18 through 25 to salvage the land while fostering character, self-esteem and a work ethic. **Hard Times and Happy Days: The Civilian Conservation Corps in North Carolina, 1933-1942** examines the impact of the CCC in the Tar Heel state. Developed by the Appalachian Consortium with funding from the North Carolina Humanities Council, the exhibition of photographs, documents and artifacts will be installed in the museum's special exhibit gallery January 16 through April 18. Complementing the exhibit will be lectures, films and a depression glass show. See the museum's calendar of events for specific titles, dates and times. Spare some time. Visit the museum and learn of the CCC's legacy in North Carolina.



## Winter Chautauqua

The museum, with assistance from Cumberland County Public Schools, is sponsoring an **African-American Chautauqua** in February. The chautauqua will consist of actors giving first-person interpretations of four historical figures: Henry Evans, David Walker, Anna Cooper and Minnie Evans.

The characters selected were born or lived in North Carolina. Henry Evans was a preacher who has been credited with bringing Methodism to Fayetteville in the late eighteenth century. He overcame prejudice and suspicion to eventually tend a multi-racial congregation. David Walker, born in Wilmington, authored **Appeal to the Colored Citizens of the World** which condemned the hypocrisy of slavery in a Christian republic and urged slaves to fight for their freedom.

In the last decade of the nineteenth century, Anna Cooper wrote **A Voice From the South**. An advocate for women's rights and the Negro, she encouraged the education of black women and pride in Negro contributions to America. Born in 1892, Minnie Evans was an artist whose vibrant colors and spiritual imagery attracted the art world. Her works have been shown at the Whitney Museum of American Art and the National Museum of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

The chautauquans will perform in the Cumberland County schools during February. Two free public performances will also be held during the month. For more information, call (919) 486-1330. The chautauqua is funded by the North Carolina Humanities Council and the North Carolina Museum of History Associates.

## Students Reap Benefits From History Harvest

This year's History Harvest was a learning experience for students, volunteers and staff. During the day, sixty-one students experienced making butter, dipping a candle, weaving a bookmark and making a basket. While some activities were "easy", participants found that others required skill and concentration. The museum would like to thank the volunteers who served as group leaders and assistants to the demonstrators. A special thanks to Perry Olive who made and served lunch for demonstrators and their helpers.



## A Successful Gathering

The fourth annual "Our Scottish Heritage" Symposium was held in September with approximately eighty participants from eight states and Scotland. This year's program was informative and thought provoking, often generating lively informal discussions between participants. Planning is underway for the '93 conference which will include special events to mark the symposium's fifth year. Partial funding for the symposium was provided by the North Carolina Museum of History Associates, Cumberland County Genealogical Society, Fayetteville Historic Resources Commission, Historic Fayetteville Foundation and the Caledonian Foundation.



# VOLUNTEER NEWS

## Fall Highlights

Every six months the museum gets an opportunity to spend extra time with the volunteer staff through volunteer receptions and field trips. Although luncheons have been the norm, an evening reception funded by the North Carolina Musuem of History Associates was held this fall. The reception enabled volunteer staff who work Monday through Friday to attend.

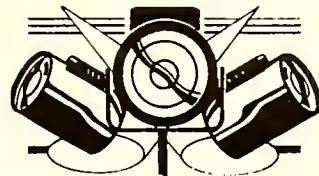
In November, the volunteers travelled to the Seagrove area to visit local potteries. The first stop was Westmore Pottery where the group observed the decorating of previously thrown items. This particular shop creates pieces which showcase German influence in the Piedmont area.

The second stop was Jugtown Pottery where a small museum exhibited the typical style and history of Jugtown Pottery. The final stop was Luck's Ware. Volunteers observed two pieces being thrown. The trip was interesting and informative with staff learning more about clays and the throwing, firing and decorating of pottery.

## Happenings

### January 11

Volunteer Workshop,  
"Communication Skills",  
10:00 am to 12:00 pm



## Volunteer *Spotlight*

This edition's Volunteer Spotlight focuses on Tim Krepp. Tim, a senior at Terry Sanford High School, is a junior volunteer who has worked at the museum since June, 1987. He spends much of his free time in competitive swimming. His other hobbies include camping and reading.

The museum would like to thank Tim for his longevity in and contributions to the volunteer program.



## Docents Needed

The museum currently needs volunteer assistance in giving guided tours to schoolchildren and adult groups. Materials and training are provided. Experience the rewards of becoming a museum docent. For more information call (919) 486-1330.

## Birthdays:

### January

- 14 Vicki Hankins
- 19 Edeltraud Jarman
- 29 Anne Howland

### February

- 1 Helen Ackerman
- 7 Kelso Hambright
- 20 Marcia Steinmetz
- 25 Ken Sweet

### March

- 2 Scott Rose
- 4 Janet Robinson
- 13 Gertrud Brown
- 15 Kathryn Lewis
- 22 Mary Smiley
- 31 Alice Hall

### Museum of the Cape Fear

Branch of the North Carolina Museum of History, Division of Archives and History,

Department of Cultural Resources

801 Arsenal Avenue, P. O. Box 53693 Fayetteville, NC 28305 (919) 486-1330

HOURS: 10:00-5:00 Tues.-Sat.; 1:00-5:00 Sun. Free Admission

Scott W. Loehr, Curator Kathryn A. Beach, Editor

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# Calendar of Events

6

## January

- 24 Quarterly Crafts Series, 1:00 pm-4:00 pm  
A year-round program that highlights traditional crafts and skills.
- 26 Lecture: Dr. Harley Jolley and Dr. Olen Cole, 7:00 pm  
Lectures complement the special exhibit on the CCC, discussing the CCC in North Carolina and the corps impact on the African-American community.

## February

- 7 *African-American Chautauqua* (Part 1), 2:00 pm  
First-person portrayals of African-American North Carolinians: Henry Evans and Anna Cooper.
- 21 *African-American Chautauqua* (Part 2), 2:00 pm  
First-person portrayals of African-American North Carolinians: David Walker and Minnie Evans.

## 28

- Film: *America Lost and Found*, 2:00 pm  
Portrait of America in the 1930s.

## March

- 7 Video: *Promise Fulfilled and Promise Broken*, 2:00 pm  
Examines the great depression and the New Deal.
- 21 Video: *The Helping Hand*, 2:00 pm  
Focuses on Franklin Roosevelt's early years in the White House.
- 28 Video: *The Grapes of Wrath*, 2:00 pm  
Steinbeck's tale of Oakies moving to California during the Great Depression affectively brought to the screen by John Ford.